

# The Spirit Of The Age.

Freedom of Inquiry, and the Power of the People.

BY C. G. EASTMAN.

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## The Spirit Of The Age.

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Job Work,  
NEATLY EXECUTED AT THIS OFFICE.

## AMASSHUSSETTS FREEMAN'S ADDRESS.

TO WILLIAM HENRY HARRISON.

You govern freemen! Yes, you may,  
When liberty has passed away;  
When gold has made the son a slave  
Beside the pilgrim father's grave,  
And moral principle is dead,  
Where Warren fell and Sumpter bled.

You govern freemen! Curse the hour  
That brings to thee the mass of power;  
When pimps in place shall round thee cling,  
The tools of some designing king,  
And lead thee, by thy passions strong,  
To do thy country's honor wrong.

You govern freemen! Shrink the hand  
That waves thy standard o'er the land;  
And silent be the receding tongue  
That speaks thy praises to the young,  
Red Baiter! lest her waves in shame,  
And wild Sandusky scorns thy name.

You govern freemen! Better far  
Than thy bright flag should lose each star;  
That accepted king, with iron tread,  
Should stamp in dust each freeman's head,  
Thou shalt, on freemen's backs, should score  
The laws a Draco wrote before.

You govern freemen! You, who hold  
Communion with a monarch's gold,  
And purchase manhood's dearest rights  
With orphan's tears and widow's wails,  
While wretched tyrants shout hurrahs,  
And glory mid the falling stars?

You govern freemen! You, who dare  
The gallant Croghan's bitter breath to wear,  
Who moved by duty's sternest calls,  
Defended old Sandusky's walls,  
And swore that e'er he turned to thee,  
A bloody harvest he should reap?

You govern freemen! Dreadful lot,  
To bear so deep a soul a blot;  
A bankrupt North—a ruined West—  
A dying South in crimson dress—  
A homeless home—a voiceless cry—  
A heartless heart—a choiceless choice.

You govern freemen! God of grace,  
Look down in mercy on our race;  
Forget not, in thy wrath, the sites  
Who fed in blood thy altar fires,  
And raised from sea to distant sea  
The holy spirit that point to thee.

No, freeman! By your soldier's grave,  
Defend the soil he died to save,  
Hurl back the asp's haughty king,  
Would place beneath your eagle's wing,  
And let your glorious anthem be—  
"I, like my father, will be free."

Washington, September 8, 1840.

## For the Spirit of the Age.

### AMERICAN NOBILITY.

That there is a class of persons in this country possessed of peculiar and exclusive privileges, beyond the reach of the great mass of the people, and constituting an aristocracy, or a nobility, none conversant with our laws, institutions and manners will pretend to deny. It is a mooted point with foreigners who have visited us, what class of persons compose this aristocracy. Some say it is formed of the bench and the law; others of the high officers of government; others again, of the descendants of men of revolutionary renown. In fact, the question with them is not yet fairly settled who compose this class of American Nobility. I will first explain what constitutes nobility in European vocabularies, and then endeavor to show who are our American nobles. In England, a noble means "a person who has a privilege which raises him above a commoner or peasant."—In France, "one who by right of birth, or by patent from the Prince, makes part of a distinguished class in the State." In our country, where by the Constitution all men are born free and equal, the accidental circumstance of birth can confer no superior rank. It is civil privilege alone, therefore, that can confer this rank on any individual or class of individuals. Now, what quality is conferred upon individuals or classes by our Bank charters and incorporated institutions but "civil privilege" unattainable by the masses, and constituting them a nobility, or an aristocracy; and that too, of the basest and most degrading kind, as founded upon the worst passion of the human heart—avarice. Yes! from Nicholas Biddle who wielded his tens of millions, to Chester Baxter who wields what remains of the rotten concern in Woodstock, the President and Directors of the four hundred banking institutions in the United States possess privileges and immunities denied to the great body of the people, which place them in real power far beyond the nobility of Europe. I will illustrate these remarks by an extract from the N. Y. Evening Post of 1836:

"Few of our charter holders have reflected much upon the nature of the privileges they enjoy, and fewer still have felt compunction at the thought that what they are thus enjoying has been denied to the rest of the community. But known to them or not it is nevertheless true. The want of consciousness of their advantages relieves them from the charge of deliberate exclusiveness. Still the fact is not less a fact that the chartered bankers of America, enjoy favors without a parallel in nobility-ridden Europe. To be an American bank director is to be raised high over the heads of the unchartered million. To be an American bank director, is to exercise a prerogative, vast at all times, but at this moment almost princely. It is to wield a power that if it pleases may subvert the proud to the most humiliating sacrifices, buy over by timely largess the vengeful and the weak, and terrify into submission the gentle and the good. To be an American bank director, is to be an American nobleman without

the publicity and the disadvantages of the decoration. It may perhaps be said that a charter is not a title of nobility, because it does not come by right of birth or patent from the Prince. Was this the meaning of the Constitution when it solemnly declares that no State shall grant a title of nobility? Most surely not. It contemplated noble privileges emanating from the legislative power. It may be urged that a bank charter is not a title of nobility, because it only grants exclusive powers and not distinctive appellations. A State we may be grave to say may grant nobility but not titles of nobility. I may grant to the meanest citizen all the prerogatives that make a Prince; it may give away forever the very essence of its sovereignty, but a sonorous epithet shall not give. It may make a man a monarch, but it shall not label him a lord. Need I answer an assumption so unrespectably absurd?"

There never was a time when reflections like the above present themselves with more force to the mind than the present. The people, the real sovereigns of this country, through their interested representatives in the legislature, have distributed these patents of nobility throughout the country with a liberal and profuse hand. Scarcely a town or village throughout the State that does not contain one or more of these American nobles. And how, let me ask, have they exercised this power in the recent struggle? For the benefit of the masses through whose simplicity they have been elevated to such a giddy height, or for the perpetuation of their own monstrous privileges? The result of the election, controlled entirely by these American noblemen, will answer for me. To produce this result, how many of the proud debtors to these corrupt and rotten corporations have been subdued; how many of the vengeful and weak have been bought, and how many of the gentle and good have been terrified into submission? Let the consciences of these upstart noblemen answer.

Fellow citizens, the banking system is becoming daily of more importance to you. You see arrayed against the democracy, and in favor of the continuation of the paper system, with few exceptions, the whole banking power of the country. It is making a tremendous effort to crush you under its iron wheels. It is no longer a question of "bank reform"; it is a question of destruction. You must destroy the banks, or they will destroy your liberties. How much longer will you consent to be ridden over, and trampled upon, and ground to the earth by these purse-proud aristocrats and nobles who rule over you with a rod of iron? How much longer will you be governed by these licensed rogues, these legalized swindlers? Methinks I hear a faint and distant murmur, which ere the next election will be reverberated from our hill sides to our valleys, until the very heavens shall echo to the cry of "down with the banks!" "down with the miserable aristocracy that directs and controls them."

### THOUGHTS AND SENTIMENTS,

EXTRACTED FROM BELVER'S "GODOLPHIN."

The child may forget its mother, and the mother desert the child; but never, never, from a woman's heart departs the memory of the first confession of love from him whom she first loves! Are not the blessings of the world like the enchanted bullets? that which pierces our heart is united with the gift which our heart desired!

The sons of the North are pre-eminently liable to be affected by that romance of emotion which the hushed and starry aspect of night is calculated to excite. The long-unbroken, luxurious silence that, in their frozen climate, reigns from the going down of the sun to its rise; the wandering and sudden meteors that dart, as with an impish life, along the noiseless and solemn heaven; the peculiar radiance of the star, and even the sterile and severe features of the earth, which they light up by their chill and gloomy serenity, serve to deepen the effect of the wizard tales which are insinuated into the ear of childhood, and to connect the less known and more visionary impulses of life with the influences, or, at least, with the associations of Night and Heaven.

It is a dark and comfortless path, that of precience and unearthly knowledge, save to the few that walk it with a gifted light and a fearless soul. It is not for women and children—nay, for few among men: it withers up the sap of life, and makes the hair gray before its time. There is something in the quiet of nature like worship; it is as if from the breathless heart of things went up a prayer or a homage to the Architect. One feels subdued by a stillness so utter and so august; it extends itself to our own sensations, and deepens into an awe.

It is in sickness that we feel our true reliance on others, especially if it is of that vague and not dangerous character when those around us are not ashamed or roused into attendance; when the care, and the vigilance, are the result of that sympathy which true and deep love only feels. Life differs from the play only in this—it has no plot: all is vague, desultory, unconnected, till the curtain drops with the mystery unveiled. Like the soul of the landscape is the gush of a fresh stream; it knows no sleep, no pause; it works for ever—the life, the cause of life to all around. The great frame of nature may repose but the spirit of the waters rests for no moment. As the soul of the landscape is the soul of man, in our deepest slumbers its course glides on, and works unaltered, unslumbering, through its destined channel.

There are certain moments when the time we have been forgetting makes its march suddenly apparent to our own eyes; when the change we have hitherto marked not stares upon us rude and abrupt; we almost fancy those lines, those wrinkles planted in a single hour, so unperceived have they been before.

It is the most common thing in the world, that, when we have once wronged a person, we go on in the wrong, from a certain soreness with which conscience links the associations of the injured party.

To be happy, we must render ourselves independent of others.

There is that in theatrical representation which perpetually awakens whatever romance belongs to our character. The magic lights; the pomp of scene; the palace; the camp; the forest; the midnight world; the image moonlight on the water; the melody of the tragic rhythm; the grace of the comic wit; the strange art that gives such meaning to the poet's lightest word; the fair, false, exciting life that is detailed before us—crowding into some three little hours all that our most busy ambition could desire—love, enterprise, war, glory; the kindling exaggeration of the sentiments; which belongs to the stage—like our own in our boldest moments: all these appeals to our finer senses are not made in vain. Our taste for castle-building and visions deepens upon us; and we chew a mental opium, which staggers all the other faculties, but weakens that of the ideal.

## THE ENGLISH JOURNALS TAKING PART WITH THE BRITISH WHIG PAPERS OF THIS COUNTRY, AGAINST MR. VAN BUREN.

The St. James Chronicle, a high-toned London Tory Journal, accuses Mr. Van Buren with an intention to revolutionize the government of this country, and erect a monarchy upon the ruins of the republic; and the Montreal Herald chimes in harmoniously with the Chronicle and the federal papers in this country, to the same effect. Hear the Tory Herald:

"The people of the United States may wince as much as they please, but it is not to be cavilled at, that their destiny is now in the hands of the individual to whom this article alludes."

"To the possession of the sword, President Van Buren has now by the Independent Sub-Treasury law, added that of the purse, and if any further disclosure of his intentions are required, look for one moment at his recommendation to the last Congress of a STANDING ARMY OF TWO HUNDRED THOUSAND MEN. Having one half of this disposable force in constant service, commanded by officers of his own creating, and himself commander-in-chief, possessed too of a civil body guard numbering forty thousand office-holders, and aided by the mounted power, Van Buren may laugh at his opponents, and the result who can doubt?"

"A judicious distribution of such a force in what are called the Whig States, will enable the President either by votes to control the elections at the polls, or to enforce obedience."

"Our republican neighbors, therefore, may as well prepare for the change, should Van Buren be elected for the second time."

When it is made apparent that the enemies of republican institutions in Old England, are attempting to subvert our government—when we see them FURNISHING THEIR GOLD to aid the cause of their friends, the British Whigs, here, and their leading Journals denouncing the candidate of the people's choice, IS IT NOT TIME FOR THE DEMOCRACY TO TAKE THE ALARM?

## A FACT FOR THE LABOURING PEOPLE.

"Flour in this city is now \$12 a barrel by the wholesale, thirteen by retail, or 6 1-2 cents per pound for the raw material."

In London at the late dates a four pound loaf of bread sold for 10 1-4 pence, or 20 cents, which is five cents per pound for bread.

Boston Advertiser of Jan. 10, 1837. The year 1837, was what the whigs called a time of prosperity & high prices. Bank expansion were then at their height. What was their effect upon the laborer, while the speculators were growing rich upon credit. The laborer's wages averaged about two dollars per day. He could earn twelve dollars a week by toiling from sun to sun. At the end of a week's work, he fell short of buying a barrel of flour for his family. Now he can earn about nine dollars a week and buy a barrel of flour for five dollars and fifty cents, which makes him \$4.50 a week better off than he was in 1837. This the whigs call "hard times." Why? Because the laborer gets more, and the speculator and credit man gets less. This is at the bottom of the pretended zeal of the whigs for the laboring people. There is more to live on now than there was in 1837, and labor realizes much more of it. But it is only "good times" with the whigs when the poor man cannot earn a barrel of flour a week. Let the laboring man press this fact in mind, when he hears the whig profession about bettering his condition, by bringing back what he calls prosperous times.

## ANOTHER FABRICATION NAILED.

The venerable MORGAN LEWIS, in a letter addressed to the editors of the Poughkeepsie Telegraph, puts to rest, with the seal of falsehood upon them, the statements of the Poughkeepsie Journal, in relation to his views on the subject of the independent Treasury, and his alleged attempt to express them while officiating as President of the great mass convention at that place.

He states that although at an early period his impressions were not to the measure, he has since become satisfied of its value, and has given to it an honest support. The assertion, that his course on that occasion admitted of the interpretation that he was hostile to the Independent Treasury, and that his friends "stood aghast," &c. &c. Gov. L. says "has the merit of boldness, but not of truth. In other words, that it is another of the dishonest frauds which characterize the federal press and the federal party. Gov. LEWIS avails himself of the occasion, to renew the expression of his confidence in and respect for "the present incumbent of the Presidential chair." "I had known him from his infancy" (said the veteran revolutionist, who was an octogenarian), "and with whom, when arrived at maturity age, I had served in council, on highly important occasions, involving the most vital interests of our country, in which he had uniformly exhibited a high order of talent, quickness of perception, soundness of judgment, strictness of integrity, competent firmness, honest, honorable and disinterested motives, openly and candidly avowed, without the shadow of concealment."

## HARRISON FLAG.

"Mother, said a lass just entering upon her teens, the other day, 'mother, I want a new Harrison Flag.'"

"What on earth do you mean, my child," said the good old woman, "are you crazy?"

"Oh, no; but my old one is worn out, and I must have a new one."

"But what do you mean by a Harrison Flag? explain yourself."

"Well, if you'll buy me four yards of dimity, I will make one, and then you can see what it is."

The dimity was purchased; and now the sprightly lass as she sports the robe, occasionally exposes the lower folds of her "new Harrison Flag."—Old Dominion.

## TIMES TWENTY YEARS AGO, WHEN A NATIONAL BANK WAS IN OPERATION.

The late National Bank was chartered in 1816. Let the reader peruse the following extracts, and see what 'times' the people had under the reign of that British institution:

"From all parts of the country, we hear of a severe pressure on men in business, a general stagnation of trade, a large reduction in the price of staple articles. Real property is rapidly depreciating in its nominal value, and its rents or profits are exceedingly diminishing. Many highly respectable

traders have become bankrupts, and it is agreed that many others must 'go'; the banks are refusing the customary accommodations; confidence among merchants is shaken, and three per cent. per month is offered for the discount of promissory notes which a little while ago were considered as good as 'old gold'; and whose makers have not since suffered any losses to render their notes less valuable than heretofore."—Niles' Register, April 10, 1819.

"It is estimated that there are 20,000 persons daily seeking work in Philadelphia; in New York, 10,000 able bodied men are said to be wandering about the streets, looking for it, and if we add to them the women who desire something to do, the amount cannot be less than 20,000; in Baltimore, there may be about 10,000 persons in unsteady employment, or actually suffering because they cannot get into business. We know several decent men, lately 'good livers,' who now subsist on such virtuals as, two years ago, they would have given to their servants in the kitchen."—Niles' Register, August 7, 1819.

"Never," says the Frankfort (Ky.) Argus, "within the recollection of our oldest citizens, has the aspect of the times, as it respects property and money, been so alarming. Already has property been sacrificed in considerable quantities, in this and the neighboring counties for less than half its value. We have but little money in circulation, and that little is daily diminishing by the universal calls of the banks. Neither lands, negroes, nor any other article, can be sold for half their value in cash, while executions to the amount of many hundreds of thousands dollars are hanging over the heads of our citizens. What can be done? In a few months, no debts can be paid, no money will be in circulation to answer the ordinary purposes of human life. Warrants, suits, and executions will be more abundant than bank notes; and the country will present a scene of suffering, for the poor remnants of individual fortunes, which the world has not witnessed."—Niles' Register, June 7, 1819.

"It has become a serious affair to the laboring man to purchase himself a new garment—his wages, on an average, do not purchase him half as much as they did, and he is continually uncertain as to obtaining even that. Many of the mechanical professions have equally declined; though our population is one-half greater than it was ten years ago, it is certainly a fact that the printing of books is not now half so extensive as it was then. The desire to read is not lessened; but the means of purchasing are denied—the most common school books are a drug. Hatters, shoe-makers, and tailors, and even blacksmiths, whose work seemed to be indispensable, have lost in general much of their former business—from a fourth to one-half. This is the result of necessity; and those who might purchase, abstain in looking to a fearful future."—Niles' Register, April 15, 1821.

"A gentleman in Western Virginia directs the Register to be stopped, because he used to pay for it annually with one barrel of flour, but that three will not do it now. Another, a miller in Ohio, on paying his advance to my agent, observed that he had sold four barrels of flour to obtain the note of \$3 which was remitted."—Niles' Register, Sept. 15, 1821.

"One in Cincinnati, to cents a bushel; wheat in Harrison county, Ohio, has fallen to 25 cents a bushel, and in some instances to 12 1-2 cents. A letter from Greenfield, Ohio, dated May 3, states that what was sold at 12 1-2 cents a bushel, and that wheat was dull at 15 cents a gallon."—U. S. Gazette, (Philadelphia,) May 23, and June 23, 1821.

"A late Pittsburg, (Penn.) Mercury says:—'Flour a barrel, \$1; whiskey 15 cents a gallon; good merchantable pine boards, 20 cents a hundred feet; sheep and calves, \$1 a head. Foreign goods at the old prices. One bushel and a half of what will buy a pound of coffee; a barrel of flour will buy a pound of tea; twelve and a half barrels will buy one yard of superfine broadcloth.'—Niles' Register, May 19, 1821.

## MR. BUCHANAN, AND THE "WAGES OF LABOR."

Mr BUCHANAN, in his great speech before the democratic state convention of Pennsylvania, in August last, took occasion again to advert to the miserable falsification of his sentiments on the wages of labor and the prices of property, which have furnished the chief electioneering staple of federal orators and newspaper writers during the campaign. We invite attention to what Mr. B. says on this subject, without a word of comment:

"I come now to speak of another whig misrepresentation, which concerns myself personally. It has been gravely published, and incessantly repeated all over the country, that I seriously rose on the floor of the Senate, and said, in substance, 'Mr. President: I advocate the passage of the Independent Treasury bill, because it will alter the value of the poor man's wages and of all the property in the country.' A charge so absurd would be scarcely worthy of a serious refutation, but for the pettiness with which its truth is insisted upon. If I could have uttered such a sentiment, I should have been worthy of a straight jacket and a cell in Bedlam, instead of a seat in the Senate of the United States. The whigs have already ridden this hobby to death as they have done every other. 'Buchanan wages,' as they call them, have been in a rapid state of depreciation. They soon sunk to 10 cents per day for wages, and 25 cents for a bushel of wheat. Recently I have understood that a public meeting has been called in this country of all those opposed to reduction of wages to six cents per day, and the price of a bushel of wheat to 16 cents. At the next step, the whigs will compel the poor man to work for nothing and find himself! And it is by such ridiculous absurdities as these, that they expect to delude the intelligent people of the country! The strongest part of the whole concern is, that this falsehood is not only without any shadow of foundation, but is in direct opposition, not merely to a passing remark in my speech, but to one of the principle heads of my argument. Mr. Clay, to whom I replied, had contended that the Independent Treasury bill would, in its consequences, reduce the poor man's labor. In opposition to this, I contended, at length, that it would produce no such effect, and that it would benefit the laboring man as much, and probably more than any other class of society. I declared that, from my soul, I respected the laboring man, and that labor was the foundation of the wealth of every country. I emphatically pronounced the opinion that the country was most prosperous when labor commanded the greatest reward; and solemnly stated that if I believed for a moment that the bill would prove injurious to the laboring man, it should meet my unqualified opposition. I not only asserted these general propositions, but endeavored to sustain them by a long argument, with what success the public must judge. On the very next day, the whig senator from Maryland, Mr. Merriek, who is an honest man, replied to my argument, which he stated fairly in a speech, which has been published to the world. In opposition, he said, to the description of the bill given by me, he contended that I was mistaken, and that it would reduce the value of property and wages of labor in the United States. This was one of the chief points at issue between the whig and democratic parties in the Senate: the whigs contending that it would, and the democrats that it would not, reduce the reward of labor, and value of property. You may judge of my astonishment when I discovered

ered that it was asserted and reiterated all over the country, that I had advocated the bill, because it would produce the very effect which I had spent much time in proving that it would not produce! Such ridiculous falsehoods give me no concern: because I know that no man in the country, whatever he may profess for party effect, believes the silly slander. I need make no profession of my devotion to the interests of the poor man. The whole history of my legislative life, which has now not been short, will prove that, whenever an opportunity has offered, I have been his advocate and his friend."

We regret that our limits will not permit us to indulge more liberally in extracts from this admirable speech. We have read it with the interest which attaches to every thing from that source, and we look upon it as one of the ablest and most triumphant efforts, whether regarded as a vindication of the administration and its leading measures, or as an exposure of the inconsistencies, the insulting mummerys and the frauds of the unscrupulous party now struggling for the ascendancy, that the crisis has called out. It is a speech which is destined to survive with the history of the times, as a faithful record of the positions and tactics of parties. It is a record which federalism itself, when the excitement of "hard cider" shall have passed off, will recoil to with shame and confusion.—Alb. Argus.

## From the Cadiz (Ohio) Sentinel. MORE PROOF OF HARRISON'S FEDERALISM.

Under the head of "more evidences—truth will out," we stated two weeks ago, that Col. Joseph Holmes, formerly a Senator in the Ohio Legislature of this State, informed us that he heard Gen. Harrison, while he was out under him in the late war, as often as three or four times, openly professing to belong to the FEDERAL party. We stated that the Col. was a man of truth and veracity—that the whigs here dare not deny it. As evidence of his standing with the whigs, their organs of last week says, "We do not believe that Holmes ever made such an expression—or that McGonagle can give any proof of the fact."

From this question of the Federal organ of Cadiz, it will be seen that Col. Holmes' character for truth is unimpeachable.

In addition to Mr. Holmes' testimony, we can state without fear of successful contradiction, that Wm. Wills, Esq., of Shortcreek township, who is a warm & uncompromising WHIG, said, in speaking of Gen. Harrison, that he had NO DOUBT THAT HE BELONGED TO THE FEDERAL PARTY. Mr. Wills was a member of the Ohio Legislature, at the time Harrison was, and conversely spoke knowingly on the subject. Besides, we have other living witnesses of Harrison's Federalism. But perhaps you are satisfied, Mr. Allison.

The following is Col. Holmes' affidavit. His word where he is known, is taken as soon as his oath. He was lately a member of the Ohio State Senate, and all who know him, can testify that he is an upright, honorable man, and a man of truth: STATE OF OHIO, } ss.  
HARRISON COUNTY, } ss.

On the 24th day of August, 1840, before me, the subscriber, personally appeared Joseph Holmes, who being duly sworn deposed and says—that "while in the army under Gen. Harrison, I repeatedly heard the General, in alluding to the Federal party, using in substance, the following language:—'Some call them cowards and some Tories; but I believe there are as good men for their country belonging to the Federal party as to the Democratic party. I care not what a man calls himself so that he is a true hearted American. AS FOR MY PART, I ALWAYS BELONGED TO THE FEDERAL PARTY.'"

JOSEPH HOLMES.  
Sworn to, and subscribed on the day and year above written, before me,  
THOS. PHILLIPS, J. P.

## THE STATE OF OHIO, } ss. HARRISON COUNTY, } ss.

I, Thomas C. Vincent, Clerk of the Court of Common Pleas, within and for said county [L. s.] and State aforesaid, do hereby certify that the within named Thomas Phillips, Esq., before whom the foregoing affidavit was sworn to and subscribed, was, at the time of taking said affidavit, and at the time he made out and signed the same, and now is, an acting Justice of the Peace within and for said county, duly commissioned and qualified, and to all whose official acts, as such, full faith and credit is due, and the foregoing signature purporting to be his, is genuine.

In testimony whereof, I have hereunto set my signature and the seal of said Court, at Cadiz, this 24th day of August, A. D. 1840.  
THOS. C. VINCENT, Clerk.

## GEN. HARRISON'S PLAN FOR CONVERTING THE MILITIA OF THE UNION INTO A STANDING ARMY, SUBJECTING THEM TO THE ARTICLES OF WAR AND PROHIBITING THEM THE LIBERTY OF SPEECH.

We have received Document No. 560, published by order of the Senate of the United States at its recent session, containing the Report and Bill introduced into Congress by Gen. Harrison on the 17th January, 1817, upon the subject of the militia. We intend to publish, probably in our next number, this Bill entire, for the purpose of showing the people what a gigantic scheme Gen. Harrison devised and advocates in order to subject the free citizens of this Republic to a military despotism. It contemplates nothing less than converting the militia into a regular standing army, compelling them to equip and uniform themselves at their own expense, and subjecting them to all the oppression and tyranny of "the rules and articles of war." Let the reader may suppose that we exaggerate the monstrous provisions of Gen. Harrison's Bill, we here copy entire the 22d section, which is in these words:—"Sec. 23. And be it further enacted, That the militia employed in the service of the United States shall be subject to the RULES and ARTICLES of war, or shall be, provided for the Government of the ARMY OF THE UNITED STATES."

The 5th and 6th articles of the "Rules and articles of war," to which Gen. Harrison pleases to subject the yeomanry of the country are in these words:—READ THEM, all ye Hard-ciderites, who wish to GAG THE MOUTHS OF FREEMAN. Here they are word for word:

"ART. 5. Any officer or soldier who shall use CONTEMPTUOUS or DISRESPECTFUL WORDS against the PRESIDENT of the United States, against the VICE PRESIDENT thereof against the CONGRESS, or army of the United States in which they are quartered, if a commissioned officer shall be CASHIERED or PUNISHED AS A COURT MARTIAL SHALL DIRECT, if a non-commissioned officer or SOLDIER, HE SHALL SUFFER SUCH PUNISHMENT AS SHALL BE INFLICTED ON HIM BY THE SENTENCE OF A COURT MARTIAL."

"ART. 6. Any officer or soldier who shall behave himself with CONTEMPT OR DISRESPECT towards his commanding officer shall be PUNISHED according to the nature of his offence BY THE JUDGMENT OF A COURT MARTIAL."

The 9th articles of the "Rules and articles of war," to which Harrison proposes to subject the Freemen of Illinois is in the words following:

"ART. 9. Any officer or soldier who shall strike his superior officer, or draw or lift up any weapon, or offer any violence against him, being in the execution of his office, or any pretence whatever, or shall disobey any lawful commands of his superior officer SHALL SUFFER DEATH or such punishment as shall, according to the nature of his offence be inflicted upon him by the sentence of a court martial."

Comment upon these provisions is unnecessary. The oppression and tyranny to which they would subject the citizen soldier is apparent.

Harrison's whole Bill, taken in connection with the articles of war, would make a perfect military despotism. This is Harrison's favorite measure. Whilst in Congress he made three different reports in its favour. And as late as last February in a letter to a committee of his fellow citizens at Louisville, he referred to it as a measure in which he felt the deepest interest. If so let them support Harrison, his standing armies and gag laws. We shall refer to this subject again, and publish the whole of Harrison's Bill, believing that the Bill itself is more odious and objectionable than any thing we could say against it.—Ill. State Register.

From Walton's Daily Journal.

## Legislature of Vermont.

### SENATE.

MONTPELIER, OCT. 8, 1840.

The Senate, pursuant to law, convened in the Senate Chamber, at ten o'clock, A. M., and was called to order by His Hon. the Lieut. Governor; when, the members being called, were qualified and took their seats.

On motion of Mr. Wooster, the rules of the last session were adopted till others might be provided.

The following gentlemen were then, on the nomination of the President, appointed as Canvassing Committee on the part of the Senate, viz. Messrs. Townsley, Miner, Clark, Gilson, Chipman, Morse, Fletcher, Eaton of Franklin, Bemis, Waterman, Adams, Bates, Howe, Eaton of Washington, who were chosen.

On motion of Mr. Miner, the Senate appointed 4 o'clock this afternoon to meet the other House in joint Assembly, to hear the report of the Canvassing committee.

The following Senators, on motion of Mr. Eaton of F. were chosen by ballot, as a committee of Rules, viz. Messrs. Miner, Townsley and Wooster. Messrs. Gilson and Fletcher were appointed a committee on Bills.

Mr. Wooster offered a resolution instructing the Judiciary committee to inquire into the expediency of a law to prohibit the sale of Bank charters to citizens without this State. Laid on the table. Adjourned to 3 o'clock, P. M.

THURSDAY, OCT. 8, 1840.

### HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

At 10 o'clock, A. M. the members elect of the House assembled in the Hall, were called to order by the Secretary of State, C. L. Knapp, Esq., and after the administration of the required oath, the House proceeded to the election of Speaker, for the year ensuing, with the following result:

Carlos Coolidge, of Windsor,	164
Levi B. Vilas, of Chelsea,	53
Newell Kinsman, of Barre,	1
O. P. Chandler, of Woodstock,	2
Blank,	1

Whole No. of votes, 221  
Majority for Coolidge, 107

Whereupon the Hon. Carlos Coolidge was declared elected, received the oath of office, and addressed the House in a brief and pertinent speech. The House was then directed to the election of Clerk pro tempore, when Ferrand F. Merrill, Esq., of Montpelier, was unanimously elected.

On motion of Mr. Baxter, of Burlington, a message was ordered to be sent to inform the Senate of the organization of the House; and Mr. Baxter was appointed to perform the service.

On motion of Mr. Smith of Putney, a similar message was ordered to be sent to his Excellency, the Governor; and Mr. Smith was appointed to perform this service.

On motion of Mr. Chandler, of Woodstock, the House proceeded to the election of a Clerk for the year ensuing, with the following result: